

Amendments to the Specification

Please cancel the previously proposed paragraph for page 3 line 12 – page 4 line 2 of the specification, and please insert the following paragraph:

Accordingly, the present invention provides a method of constructing a thin film mirror, which method comprises:

- (i) providing a suction chamber with edges which lie on a surface of the thin film mirror being constructed;
- (ii) providing tensioning means which is forced into contact with a film which is for the thin film mirror being constructed, the tensioning means being positioned adjacent to and inwardly of at least one of the edges of the suction chamber such that tension in the film parallel to the edge is increased by the tensioning means moving the film in a direction into the suction chamber; and
- (iii) providing holding means for
 - (a) holding the tensioning means;
 - (b) locally adjusting holding pressure on the tensioning means; and
 - (c) feeding the tensioning means into position after the film has been attached to the suction chamber.